

REMARKS

Claims 1-10 are pending in this application.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-10 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over Salesky et al. (Salesky), U.S. Patent No. 6,343,313. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Salesky does not disclose or suggest an image displaying device that comprises an image data acquisition controlling unit that acquires image data from a relevant terminal in such a way that when it acquires image data from a relevant terminal by controlling the communication unit at the displaying device side, it instructs other terminals to suspend transmission, thereby suspending transmission of image data, as recited in independent claim 1 and similarly recited in independent claims 2 and 6-10.

The Office Action asserts that attendee client computers 18 of Salesky correspond to the claimed plurality of terminals, and that presenter client computer 12 of Salesky corresponds to the claimed image displaying device. Salesky teaches that the attendee client computer 18 receives image data and the presenter client 12 sends image data (see Abstract). Therefore, the attendee client computers 18 do not correspond to the claimed plurality of terminals because they do not send image data, and the presenter client computer 12 does not correspond to the claimed image display device because it does not acquire image data from a relevant terminal, as recited in independent claim 1. That is, the presenter client computer 12 does not correspond to the claimed image displaying device because it is the sender of image data, not the recipient. Furthermore, the presenter client computer 12 captures an image and sends it to the attendee client computer 18 through a conference server 14 that provides flow control for the presenter client (see col. 22, lines 60-67). That is, Salesky discloses that it is the conference server 14 that provides flow control (which allegedly includes the instruction to suspend transmission) for the network, not the attendee client computer 18 or the presenter client computer 12, regardless of which one is alleged to correspond to the claimed image

display device (see col. 22, lines 56-67). In Salesky, the conference server instructs suspension of image data transmission, which is completely different from Applicants' claims, in which the image data acquiring/displaying unit instructs suspension of image data. Therefore, Salesky does not disclose or suggest an image displaying device that comprises an image data acquisition controlling unit that acquires image data from a relevant terminal in such a way that when it acquires image data from a relevant terminal by controlling said communication unit at the displaying device side, it instructs other terminals to suspend transmission, thereby suspending transmission of image data, as recited in independent claim 1 and similarly recited in independent claims 2 and 6-10. Therefore, all pending claims are patentable over Salesky. Withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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